

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Kevin S. Lemack on June 13, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 15, line 1, the term "The" has been replaced with the term "An".

In claim 17, lines 7 and 8, the phrase "or an ink comprising the phthalocyanine colorant according to Claim 1 and an organic solvent" has been deleted.

In claim 21, lines 2 and 3, the phrase "or the ink set according to Claim 17" has been deleted.

In claim 23, lines 3-5, the phrase "an ink comprising the phthalocyanine colorant according to Claim 1 or the ink set according to claim 17" has been deleted.

In claim 24, line 2, the phrase "characterized by being obtained by" has been replaced with the term "comprising".

Please add the following new claims:

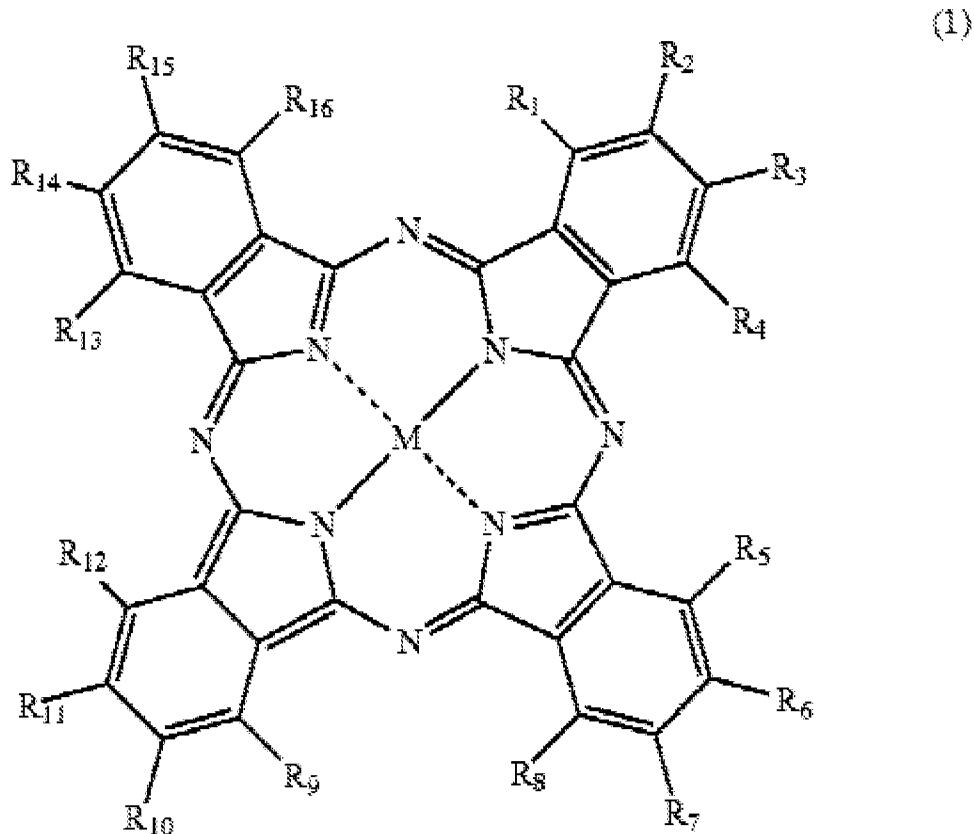
29. An ink set comprising at least two kinds of cyan inks having different colorant concentrations, wherein one of them is an ink comprising the phthalocyanine colorant according to Claim 1 and an organic solvent.

30. A container comprising an ink set according to Claim 17.

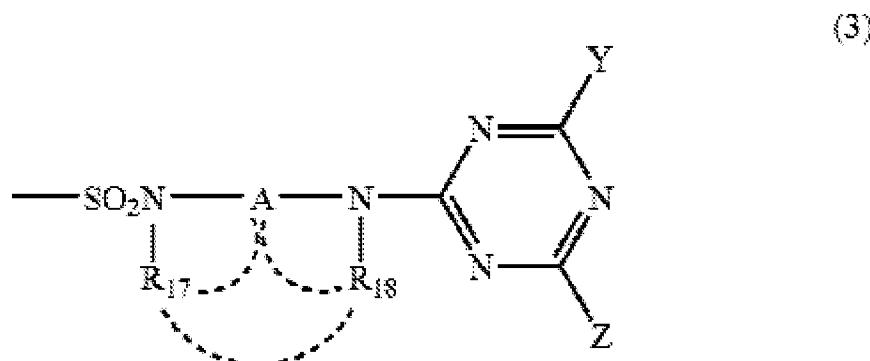
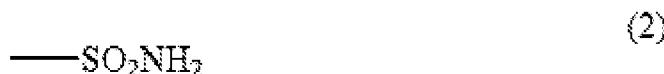
31. An ink-jet printer comprising the container according to Claim 30.
32. A colored product which is colored with an ink comprising the phthalocyanine colorant according to Claim 1.
33. A colored product which is colored with an ink set according to Claim 17.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: This application teaches a phthalocyanine colorant of the Formula (1)

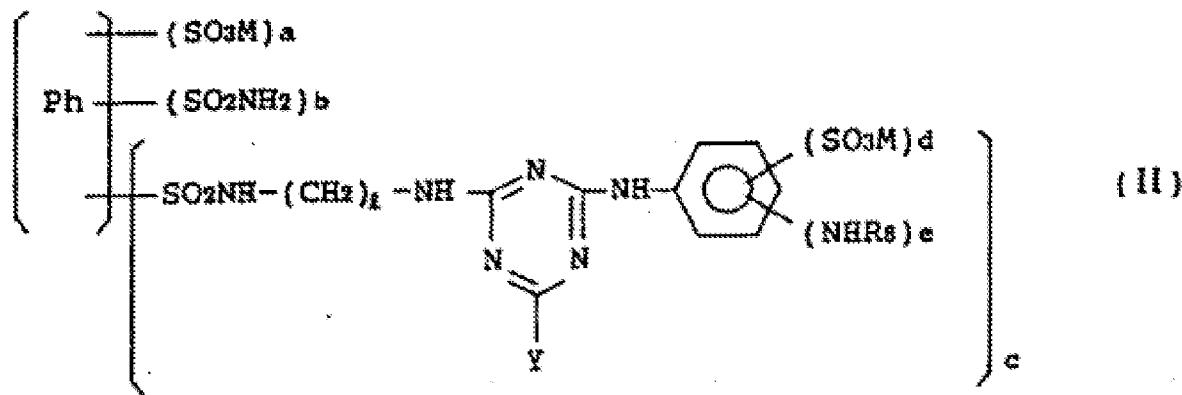


wherein M represents H, a metal atom, a meal oxide, a metal hydroxide, or a metal halide; R₂, R₃, R₆, R₇, R₁₀, R₁₁, R₁₄ and R₁₅ each independently represent H, an unsubstituted sulfamoyl group represented by the Formula (2) or a substituted sulfamoyl group represented by Formula (3)



wherein R₁₇ and R₁₈ each independently represent H; A represents a C₁₋₄ alkylene group; any one of Y and Z represents an amino group or a C₁₋₆ alkylamino group substituted with a sulfonic acid group or a carboxyl group and the other is a phenylamino group or a naphthylamino group substituted with a sulfonic acid group or a carboxyl group, provided that at least one of R₂, R₃, R₆, R₇, R₁₀, R₁₁, R₁₄ and R₁₅ is the unsubstituted sulfamoyl group represented by Formula (2), and at least one thereof is the substituted sulfamoyl group represented by Formula (3); and R₁, R₄, R₅, R₈, R₉, R₁₂, R₁₃ and R₁₆ represent H; the sum of a number of the unsubstituted sulfamoyl group and a number of the substituted group is 2 to 4, and a number of the unsubstituted sulfamoyl

group is 1 to 3 and a number of the substituted sulfamoyl group is 1 to 3 and an ink composition containing the above phthalocyanine colorant. The closest prior art of record is EP 0418792, which teaches an ink comprising water, an organic solvent and a phthalocyanine colorant of the formula (II)



wherein the substituents are defined in the specification but fails to teach or fairly suggest a phthalocyanine compound of applicants Formula (1) having the groups of applicants Formula (2) and Formula (3) at a specific position (i.e. β -substitution) and having a specific combination of Y and Z as claimed by applicants. Accordingly, this application is allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Helene Klemanski whose telephone number is (571) 272-1370. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:00-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jerry Lorengo can be reached on (571) 272-1233. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Helene Klemanski/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1793